

Eastern Express

January/February 2010

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System—SSN 1064-3486

Inside this Issue:

Service Trends...pages 1-2
Upcoming Events...page 2
Weeding...page 3
System News...pages 4-5
Youth Page...page 6
Worth Checking Out...page 7
FYI....page 8
Board Minutes...page 9-10
Summer Reading...page 11
Legislative Day...page 12
State Historical Soc...page 13

Attend Legislative
Day—Feb. 9th

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From the Executive
Director....*Kathy Tooker*

Service Trends in U.S. Public Libraries: 1997-2007

Below is a press release sent by the Institute of Museum and Library Services that should make for interesting reading by any librarian, especially those in public libraries. I encourage you to read the full research brief, it is not that long, only six pages, and identifies some interesting trajectories between urban and rural communities for select library trends.

IMLS Announces New Research Brief: Service Trends in U.S. Public Libraries, 1997-2007

Washington, DC—The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) announces the release of a new research brief, Service Trends in U.S. Public Libraries, 1997-2007. The brief identifies important changes public libraries have made to address patron needs in an increasingly Internet-centric environment and explores service differences in urban and rural communities.

A comparison of more than 11 years of Public Library Survey data suggests that service changes in U.S. public libraries

are having an impact on visitation and circulation, as record numbers of people now use public libraries nationwide. Several findings from the survey include:

- The availability of Internet terminals in public libraries rose sharply between 2000 and 2007, increasing by 90 percent on a per capita basis. This dramatic increase is one example of the way U.S. public libraries are expanding their range of services to meet patron demand.
- Between 1997 and 2007, per capita visits to public libraries increased nationwide by 19 percent. During the same period per capita circulation increased by 12 percent. This growth in demand for library services occurred even as people increasingly turned to the Internet to meet other information needs.
- The study identified very different trajectories between urban and rural communities for select service trends, highlighting the importance of local context for identifying patron needs and improving services.

Future research from the Office of Policy, Planning, Research and Communication will examine library services in a variety of different contexts from small towns and remote rural areas to central cities and suburbs.

Continued on next page →

This type of placed-based analysis can provide important insight into the impact libraries have on their communities, while building a stronger, evidence-based platform for planning library services to meet local needs.

To read the research brief please go to:
http://www.imls.gov/pdf/Brief2010_01.pdf

About the Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.imls.gov.

Upcoming Events

February 5 - CLICK Meeting, Early Childhood Training Center, Omaha - 9:30 am

February 9 - Library Legislative Day, Lincoln (see page 12)

February 12 - ELS Board Meeting—Omaha Public Library, Elkhorn Branch

February 19 - DIRECT Meeting, Wahoo Public Library - 9:30 am

February 26 - Summer Reading Workshop, Keene Memorial Library, Fremont (see flyer on page 11)

March 18 - Paraprofessional Spring Meeting - go to
http://www.nebraskalibraries.org/PARA/para_springmeeting.html for more information

March 20 - Media Specialist Training Day (more info coming)

April 9 - ELS Board Meeting, Lyons Public Library

June 4 - ELS Annual Meeting, Anderson Conference Center, Midland Lutheran College, Fremont



To ELS Board members, system members, and friends:

As many of you have heard, I managed to break both legs taking up the collection at church. No one has heard of anyone doing this before, so I think I can qualify for the “klutz” award!

I have received many cards, plants, visits and calls. Thank you so much. I have made amazing progress here at Bergen Mercy Medical Center and have been transferred to Alegent Immanuel Acute Rehab. I was standing and took baby steps the day after my fall from grace.

During rehab, I will have my laptop and wifi. As my schedule allows I will be online and able to use my email. I will help with questions or concerns any way I can. Please call Nancy at ELS and she can answer your questions or refer you to another system director.

Again, thank you one and all, my dear friends....

Kathy



WEEDING ala Kathy

My name is Kathy Tooker and I'm addicted to weeding library collections of old, misleading, ugly books. I realize that library collections are not just books but I find more satisfaction in taking a 1990 book on computers off the shelf than I do discarding a novel on cassette — that is not to say libraries should be keeping their cassette collections. One time, when weeding a small collection, I pulled off a 1909 Italian history book; the director pulled it from my hands and put it right back on the shelf saying, "This is the only book we have on Italian history." I am happy to say that title is no longer in that collection.

So, other than having nothing else on the subject, why don't librarians like to weed? I think there are two types of librarians, those of us who enjoy cleaning out all that old, unused, duplicate, misleading, ugly stuff and those that think it is their mission to retain everything the library has ever purchased because someone may want to read it sometime. Notice— most libraries aren't research libraries and there is Inter Library Loan (ILL.)

There are many other reasons not everyone loves to weed. Some are psychological while others are physical and/or time related — it is work, plus it takes our valuable time to go through a collection taking a look at each book. Then if you discard it there is more work to remove all records of the book. Then you must decide what to do with it such as save for book sale, give or swap to another library, try and sell on eBay, or just throw away in the dark of night taking the chance it will come back to haunt you. Even though you have written "discarded" on it, some concerned citizen is sure you really didn't mean it and may take it out of the dumpster.

*Numbers — Some still believe that a large collection equals a good collection. Just think of trying to buy an article of clothing in a store that kept all of its clothing from past years. No one wants to paw through old stuff to find the good stuff.

*Time - "I keep meaning to weed, but other things just seem more important." So, you don't have to weed the entire collection, do it in stages, pick a section each week/month. The *Sunlink Weed of the Month* is a good way to do this for any collection catalogued by Dewey (www.sunlink.ucf.edu/weed).

*Rare Book — This is another old standby for non-weeders. Yes, that candidate for weeding might be a rare book, it can happen, but not often. By the time a book is stamped, cover attached, mended, it probably isn't too valuable.

*But I Selected This Book - Here is another one of the psychological reasons books don't get weeded. It is very difficult to admit that other people didn't think the title you thought was just what the collection needed - wasn't. So, who's perfect?

*Destroying / discarding public property - have a policy in place. They grind up public roads to make new ones, don't they?

*"Oh, I love this book" or "it is such a good story." This is usually followed by "Why isn't anyone reading this now?" What can I say, we all have different reading tastes and even if you liked the book, if it fits the weeding criteria, it should be discarded.

As librarians, we have all kinds of reasons to put off weeding or not weed at all. I can guarantee you that your circulation will increase after the collection is well-weeded. There will be more space on your shelves, and you will save time in shelving and the time of your readers in finding the materials they want.

For help in weeding, the best resource I have found is still the **CREW: A Weeding Manual for Libraries**, available online at www.tx.us/ld/pubs/crew.

System News



On November 22nd, Kathy, Nancy and Marie Reidelbach traveled to Tekamah to see the “Fantasy of Trees” exhibit at the Burt County Museum. Sam McMullen (shown here) decorated a room in honor of the Burt County Libraries and Eastern Library System. The theme of the room was “Scrooge’s Christmas Carol,” and included displays reminiscent of Charles Dickens’ beloved novel. Sam (former ELS Board Member and now an alternate) participates in the festival every year and does it in honor of her county’s libraries. If you have not visited the Burt County Museum you need to put that on your calendar of things to do in 2010.

John G. Neihardt State Historic Site

The Neihardt Foundation is sponsoring an art exhibit which will be on display through January 30th. The museum is located in Bancroft. The pieces on exhibit are created by 40 artists who are all members of the Northeast Nebraska Art Association as well as the Association of Nebraska Art Clubs. In an effort to get the members’ works known in smaller communities across the state, they have exhibited most recently in Hartington, Tilden, and Norfolk. The wide variety of mediums include raku and stoneware, watercolor, acrylic, oil, stained glass, graphite, wood, and photography. For more information - neihardt@gpcom.net

Retiring

Tom Boyle will be retiring from Midland Lutheran College Luther Library this Spring. He arrived at Midland in 1972 to teach history. Four years later, Tom became director of the library. His plans are to stay in Fremont and do some volunteer work as his wife is still teaching at Midland. He will continue to mentor students who see library science as a career path. Tom, we will miss you!

Baright, Ralston

On Saturday, January 30th the Baright Public Library is offering a class on writing novels. Sally Walker, a published author of novels, stage plays, poetry and magazine articles on the craft of writing, will be the instructor. Sally is currently the president of the Nebraska Writers Guild. The lecture starts at 9 am at the library. The cost is \$30. To register call the library—402-331-7636.

Heartland School Library Conference June 14-15, 2010

This exciting conference for school librarians will be held on the UNO campus. This is a chance for ALL school librarians in every Nebraska community to attend a school library features nationally celebrated speakers and leaders who are usually available only at those big, expensive conferences. Registration is only \$50 for both days and there are scholarships available. Contact Dr. Becky Pasco for information rpasco@unomaha.edu. You can earn college credit for attending from either UNO or UNK. Registration is limited to 300 and registrations have been coming in weekly so REGISTER SOON. For a copy of the registration form contact the ELS office and we will either email or mail you a copy.

Mary Fritts has retired as director of the Lyons Public Library and Michael Heavrin is the new director. Thank you to Mary for her years of service and welcome from ELS to Michael

More System News

Youth Grants for Excellence Awarded

- Bellevue Public Library—"Rockin' @ Your Library"
- Blair Public Library—"Treasure for Tots"
- Sump Memorial Library, Papillion—"I Hate Reading" Book Clubs
- Wahoo Public Library—"Writing Workshop"
- Eastern and Southeast Library Systems—"Youth Services Retreat"

Techsoup for Libraries featured Karen Mier, Baright Public Library, in their "Library Spotlight." Karen is the computer support technician at Baright in Ralston. She is responsible for the library's hardware and software, and for maintaining its website. She is also responsible for and very proud of the computer courses offered to the library's patrons.

Library Fines....do they really work?

Rosa Schmidt, Oakland Public Library Director reviewed their fine policy and wondered if NO fines could be an option. Kathy sent her message out to the ELS public library directors. Here are some of their comments:



Tekamah: The Tekamah Public Library is pretty easy going...fines are 10 cents per library day for all materials with the exception of videos which are \$1 per library day. Fines are not charged for all sorts of exceptions, weather, death-accidents-sickness, etc. We do not have a "free time" for returns. We did try to do "food for fines" once, but were told by the city accountant that it was not legal as the "fines" would not go to the city. The library staff does have the perk of not paying fines and some board members insist on paying their fines.

Lyons: The Lyons Public Library charges 5 center per day per item. No exceptions are noted. Fines will be waived if materials are due the day of a major weather event—like a blizzard.

Bennington: Our overdue fines are 5 cents per day for all library materials and for all patrons. The maximum fine per item is \$5.00. We have a 2-day grace period. We do not make exceptions for staff, library board, friends, etc.

Gretna: Regarding the question of ethics and fines, Different fine levels for different patron groups can be entirely ethical, IF the board has thought through the situation and has good reasons for those levels. For example, if it has been ascertained that the seniors living around the library typically have a poverty level income, while the median income of the rest is the national average, then the library board could use that information to lower or eliminate fines for seniors. Whether differing fine levels are practical or confusing to users and staff is another matter. It is certainly easier for us to not have different fine levels, and in our community, that is the fairest way to go. Another question would be whether it is ethical for public libraries to rely on fines as a revenue source. That kind of reliance can cause libraries to take actions that are at odds with good customer service. What is the purpose of fines? To get materials back to the library so they can circulate again, or to bring in income, or both? In a technological age, fine revenue should probably eventually go down in most libraries, with automated email, text messages, and phone reminders all becoming possible, depending on what software you have.

Bellevue: Currently everyone pays fines except staff. All fines are 10 cents per day except art prints and reference books (\$1 per day.) There is a 3-day grace period.

Resources For Youth Services Librarians & Media Specialists

New Book Bag Sets

The Schwa was Here by Neal Schusterman is one of the latest titles available to borrow for book discussion groups. It is about an eighth-grader's friendship with another student named Calvin Schwa, who is capable of seemingly not being noticed by the people around him.

For younger readers, Laurie Halse Anderson's ***Say Good-Bye*** is one of the series Vet Volunteers and is the story about a small therapy dog named Yum-Yum and how he helps people.

On order is ***13 Reasons Why*** by Jay Asher.

For more information about the ELS Book Bags for Kids service, visit our web page at www.elsne.org.

Interlibrary Loan these Articles

- **"Tips From Your Colleagues and Other Bring Ideas"** - Many clever ideas to encourage reading for both schools and public libraries.
- **"Getting Graphic: Best of 2009"** by Michele Gorman—Titles for elementary, middle school, and high school.

[Seen in *Library Media Connection*, January/February 2010]

Ten of the Best Blogs for Folks Who Take Kid's Lit Seriously (but not too seriously) by Elizabeth Bird.

Just Google the names.

1. Bookshelves of Doom
 2. The Brown Bookshelf
 3. Chasing Ray
 4. Collecting Children's Books
 5. Editorial Anonymous
 6. Educating Alice
 7. 100 Scope Notes
 8. Read Roger
 9. Reading Rants!
 10. Seven Impossible Things Before Breakfast
- [Seen on *School Library Journal Online*, 9-18-09]

Booktrust Teenage Prize

Neil Gaiman's *The Graveyard Book* has won the Booktrust Teenage Prize for 2009. The Graveyard Book tells the story of Nobody "Bod" Owens, a child abandoned in a graveyard after the murder of his parents and sister. Launched in 2003, this United Kingdom site (www.bookstrust.org.uk) to recognize and celebrate contemporary fiction for teenagers.

Good Web Sites for Crafts

The sites below were recommended by area librarians as good ones for crafts for kids.

Pam Thompson, Omaha Public Library—

www.origami-instructions.com/origami-square-base.html — Video shows how for folding. (Sometimes the written or drawn instructions aren't adequate)

Connie Manzer, Springfield PL—

www.notimeforflashcards.com

This is actually a blog written by a former preschool teacher. The crafts are geared for preschool children and provide an excellent source of inspiration for ideas to use with Storytime.

www.thebestkidsbooksite.com

This website provides crafts by searching for projects, materials, and themes. There is also a search engine to use.

www.crayola.com

Here you can select a theme, a type of craft and a product. Excellent for all ages.

Mark your calendars for these events:

February 5—CLICK (Children's Librarians Information and Coffee Klatch) meeting. 9:30– 11:30 am at the Early Childhood Training Center. Open to all librarians who work with youth. Come and see what services the ECTC provides.



February 26—Summer Reading Program Workshop. 9 am—3 pm at the Keene Memorial Library, Fremont. See registration this issue.

March 20—Library Media Specialist Training Day. 8:30 am—3 pm, UNO Kayser Hall. More information coming later. Come to learn, acquire new skills, and network.

Worth Checking Out

What do you do when you drop your cell phone into water? [from *Smart Computing*, November 2009]

1. Take the battery out
2. Use a paper towel to blot water off the phone's exterior
3. If you can, remove parts of the external case to remove water that may have seeped inside
4. Place the phone in a bowl of uncooked rice for a day to absorb the water from the phone's interior
5. Once the internal parts look dry, carefully put the phone back together and replace the battery and hope for the best.

Technology Tips [*Library Media Connection*, January/February 2010]

- WeFi, available at www.wefi.com, is a free download and shows the most available hotspots for wireless internet at various locations. Remember that when connection to a hotspot you are always open to viruses and identity theft.
- If you are tired of PowerPoint take a look at Flowgram, a free application available at www.flowgram.com. This application lets you combine live web pages, photos, documents and videos into your presentation.

John Seyfarth recommends looking into the link to free Microsoft Security Essentials Anti-Virus Software http://www.microsoft.com/security_essentials/support.aspx?mkt=en-us

AccuCut Offer

For those of you using the AccuCut die cutting machine, they are offering a 50% savings on all dies and die sets until January 25th. Go online (accucut.com) to order and use offer code—EFJO3.

California Library Debuts Netflix-Like Plan

[*Library Journal*, December 2009]

A Bay Area library will test a Netflix-like model in which library users can borrow three items at a time for \$2.99 a month, five for \$4.99 a month, or up to ten for \$8.99 a month, with no late fees, but with no free shipping. The director of the Hayward Public Library, CA, says the fines-free library loan program

is aimed at people who gave up on the library after their accounts were blocked owing to accumulated fines. If a cardholder wants a library book or AV item that another borrower has a home, the library will buy another copy.

Top Digital Trends for 2010

[from *Digital Media Buzz*, e-newsletter of ALA]

1. Facebook replaces personal email
2. Open source software starts making money
3. Mobile commerce - paying for goods through full e-commerce sites
4. Fewer registrations - one sign-in fits all

10 Steps to Improved Service

by Richard Tate

1. Make a commitment to services. Achieving quality service takes a serious commitment from every employee. Try to exceed customers' expectations.
2. Develop a proactive recovery strategy. Go all out to find out why customers become disgruntled.
3. Ensure continuous improvement. Change from accepting the status quo to being excited about change and innovation.
4. Listen to customers. Listening is the foundation of all good relationships.
5. Facilitate change. Leaders need to define outcomes, clearly communicate, and establish guiding principles and core values.
6. Define the playing field. Understand the rules and policies.
7. Provide autonomy. Allow flexibility in decision – making.
8. Measure performance. Consider the opinions of your customers.
9. Hold everyone accountable. Everyone is in it together.
10. Celebrate success. Develop a feeling of accomplishment and a desire to improve.

For Your Information

Awards for Promotion of Literature Presented

The Nebraska State Historical Society's Nebraska History Museum was the site of the 2009 Nebraska Book Festival, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Humanities Council, Nebraska Library Commission and the Nebraska State Historical Society. The festive occasion featured an awards luncheon with readings by **Nebraska Book Award** winners, including Kristine Gerber, Design award for *BVH Architects: Forty Years*; Ron Hansen, Fiction award for *Exiles*; Stew Magnuson, Design Honor and Nonfiction award for *The Death of Raymond Yellow Thunder*, and Keith Terry, Nonfiction Honor award for *Nebraska's Cowboy Trail*.

The Nebraska Book Festival also provided the occasion for presentation of the Nebraska Center for the Book's **Mildred Bennett Award** and **Jane Pope Geske Award**.

The **Mildred Bennett Award** is given to an individual who provides leadership and service in the promotion of Nebraska literature. This year's recipient is **Ted Kooser**. Ted Kooser is one of the nation's most highly regarded poets and served as the United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004 - 2006. During his second term he won the Pulitzer Prize for his book of poems, *Delights & Shadows* (Copper Canyon Press, 2004). He lives on an acreage near Garland, Nebraska and has indeed made a significant contribution to the literary tradition in Nebraska. Kooser accepted the award and remarked, "We have a wonderful literary community in this state, very nurturing. It has been a privilege to be a part of it all these years."

The 2009 **Jane Geske Award** was presented to the **Golden Sower Award Committee of the Nebraska Library Association's School, Children's, and Young People's Section**. The Golden Sower Award is Nebraska's children's choice award for literature. Thousands of Nebraska students participate in the

Golden Sower Award program each year, with 66,648 voting for their favorite reads this year.

The Nebraska Center for the Book annually presents the Jane Geske Award to an organization, business, library, school, association, or other group that has made an exceptional contribution to literacy, books, reading, libraries, or Nebraska literature. The Jane Geske Award commemorates Geske's passion for books, and was established in recognition of her contributions to the well-being of the libraries of Nebraska. Jane Geske was a founding member of the Nebraska Center for the Book and a long-time leader in many Nebraska library and literary activities.

Kimberly Thomas donated the artwork for the 2009 Mildred Bennet and Jane Geske awards. Thomas received her MFA degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and teaches photography at Metropolitan Community College in Omaha. Barbara Gehringer, of Clarkson Street Gallery in Fremont, donated the framing.

Talking Book Advisory Committee Seeks Nominees

Two vacancies currently exist on the Advisory Committee to the Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book and Braille Service. The purpose of the committee is to represent the needs of talking book and Braille borrowers and to make recommendations concerning library policies, services, and programs. Membership consists primarily of library users but may include librarians, educators, health care providers, and others who understand the needs of individuals with disabilities. The committee normally meets twice a year.

The Talking Book and Braille Service provides free talking books, magazines, playback equipment, and Braille to any resident of Nebraska who cannot see regular print, or hold a book, or turn its pages. Persons interested in serving on the committee should contact Talking Book and Braille Service, 1200 N Street, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023 by March 1, 2010. Phone: 402-471-4038 or 800-742-7691, fax: 402-471-6244, e-mail:

nlc.talkingbook@nebraska.gov.

Eastern Library System Board Meeting December 11, 2009 NDE Early Childhood Training Center

Board Members Present: John Seyfarth, Robin Bernstein, Joyce Neujahr, Scott Berryman, Gayle Roberts, Lowen Kruse, Marie Reidelbach, Gail Formanack, Nancy Meyer, Kathleen Tooker

The Board was pleased to have the opportunity to meet two state Senators including Senator Scott Price and Senator Gwen Howard prior to the board meeting. Equally nice was the wonderful hospitality proved by Laurie Brasile and Carol Fichter. The refreshments provided were enjoyed by all.

Laurie Brasile shared information about the mission of the NDE Early Childhood Training Center. The Center came into existence when Nebraska became a birth mandate state. Their purpose was to bridge information providing support and training to all staff working with disabled children from birth to age 3. In the early 90s they expanded their training to include all early childhood. They have a toll free number and maintain an exclusive childhood education collection. Their website linked from <http://ectc.nde.ne.gov/> provides more information.

The meeting was called to order by President, John Seyfarth.

Lowen Kruse motioned to approve the October 9, 2009, board meeting minutes, Robin Bernstein seconded, and the minutes were approved as written.

The Treasurer's Report for October and November 2009, were distributed in advance of the meeting for review. Lowen Kruse motioned to approve the reports, Gail Formanack seconded. The reports were approved to be filed for audit.

Highlights from the Administrator's Report are provided below:

Kathy accepted an award from the District 24 Toastmasters and gave a presentation on libraries.

Kathy complimented Joyce Neujahr on her excellent presentation on "Customer Service" to the Direct meeting composed of Public Library Directors.

Robin Bernstein accompanied Kathy to the Commissioner's meeting on November 13. The budget was the main topic. The Nebraska Library Commission is not facing quite as severe a cut as once feared. However, everyone is prepared for a more difficult financial year in 2010. Rod Wagner does not want to lose any staff. He will ad-

vocate for furloughs, if necessary. Kathy is confident that the Eastern Library System can ride the storm this year. The next Commissioner's meeting is January 8, 2010.

A new group is being formed, the Peer Mentoring Group. The group encourages librarians who have taken a new position or those new to the profession to join the group. The next meeting is scheduled for December 18.

March 20 is the Media Specialist Training Day. Kathy has been working closely with Becky Pasco and it appears everything is set for a successful event.

Committee Reports

A. Nominating – No report

B. Fundraising

Marie Reidelbach reported the Barnes and Noble event had been successful with raising \$471.46 for the System. Lowen Kruse and Joy Johnson attended promoting and signing their books. Calendars, note cards, and ornaments were sold at the NLA/NEMA conference in October. The ornaments have been very popular this year with orders still coming in. The fundraising efforts for 2009-2010 have brought in \$1,411.96 for the System. Kathy presented a new idea to the board for consideration. Board members enjoyed the lively discussion and will look forward to how the idea develops into a profitable fundraiser.

C. Technology

John Seyfarth shared that on January 8 there will be a workshop titled "Technology You Can Use" held at the Sump Public Library in Papillion. Topics covered will include Facebook, Blogging, Picasa, Zamzar, and Adobe Connect. Presenters will be Gayle Roberts, John Seyfarth, Rosa Schmidt, Karen Hein, and David Privett. The workshop is offering two sessions with a full day registration fee of \$25 or \$15 for each. The ELS Website linked from <http://www.elsne.org/> has posted a flyer including registration information. John will be upgrading the computers in the ELS office to Windows 7.

D. Continuing Education

Joyce Neujahr and committee members have been reading the submitted grant applications for four possible \$500 grants. The committee only received three applications. Quality of applications was discussed with Kathy suggesting a grant writing workshop in the future. A motion was made to approve one of the applications for a \$500 grant to the Baright Public Library in Ralston. The motion carried. ➔

E. Advocacy

Kathy shared that Legislative Day is scheduled for February 9 at the Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln. We were pleased that this year we had two senators come to visit with board members prior to the December meeting. Last year we did not have any Senators attend.

New Business

A. The ELS will not have a cut in their budget this year because they did not receive any increase. It is expected next year the budget will be much tighter. Kathy shared that some dollars will be carried over to hopefully help with expenses. Also, she will go after grants whenever possible. She will also be holding off on professional development activities until more information is provided by the Commission.

John shared his concern with the long term sustainability of the systems across the state. The model for the systems is wonderful, but very concerned about their future. He encouraged the Board members to start thinking about ways we could improve their sustainability.

Gail Formanack motioned to adjourn the meeting. Marie Reidelbach seconded, motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marie Reidelbach, Secretary of the Eastern Library System Board.

Next Meeting:

February 12, 2009

Omaha Public Library, Elkhorn Branch



Eastern Library System Summer Reading Workshop 2010

February 26, 2010
Keene Memorial Library
1030 North Broad Street, Fremont

- 9:00-9:30 am** Swim-In Registration and Live Bait Refreshments
9:30-10:15 Catch of the Day: Author of "It's Disgusting and We Ate It," James Solheim, will discuss the writing of his new book, "Born Yesterday: The Diary of a Young Journalist"
10:15-10:45 Splish and Splash with new cutouts from AccuCut
10:45-11:00 Break
11:00—Noon Ahoy Readers - Book Reviews with Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission
Noon— 12:45 Lunch - Seafood and Landlubber's Delights
1:00—3:00 pm Fish Tales & Crabby-Crafts Share Time with the ELS School of Smart Fish. This is your time to share a book, craft, program or other idea already in the works.
Please bring 40 copies of your ideas/bibliography.

Cost: \$15 (checks to ELS) which includes lunch - 6 CE credits

Send your registration by February 19th—

*****PLEASE send your registration on time. You may pay at door but please indicate that on your registration and mail or fax it as soon as possible.**

Name _____

Library _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Send to: Eastern Library System
 11929 Elm Suite 18
 Omaha, NE 68144

Snow date is
 March 5th. If the
 weather looks
 bad on the 26th
 please call the
 office - 330-7884.

Come on
 in... the
 water's
 fine



Nebraska Library Legislative Day February 9, 2010 Libraries: Priceless

8-9 am— Coffee and Doughnuts in Room 1126, State Capitol

Start the day off with refreshments and a visit with our senators, staff members and other librarians. Don't Come Alone: Invite your senators, trustees and city officials too!

9:30—Briefing at Lincoln Woman's Club — 407 S. 14th

You will receive information on current legislation and library issues from Ken Winston, NLA's lobbyist, receive an update from State Librarian Wagner, and hear from Scott Berryman, public policy attorney and library advocate.

Noon—Lunch at the Cornhusker Hotel

Invite your senator to a great lunch. The cost is \$20 per person. Please offer to pay for your senator's lunch AND make sure to escort him/her to the luncheon. If your senator is unable to attend, invite his/ her legislative aide — they are important contacts in the lobbying process and you should know them.

1:15pm—Afternoon Session at the Cornhusker. Nebraska Memories, Making Nebraska's Past Unforgettable, presented by Beth Goble from the Nebraska Library Commission. Nebraska Memories is a cooperative project to digitize Nebraska-related historical and cultural heritage materials and make them available to researchers of all ages via the Internet.

- ___ \$20 for my participation
- ___ \$20 for the Senator's lunch
- ___ \$20 for each city official, trustee, or other participant
- ___ \$20 donation for honoree's meal or NLA Legislative Day expenses
(no refunds)

Name _____

E-Mail _____

Library _____

State Senator _____

Library Trustee/Friend or City Official _____

Make Checks Payable to: Nebraska Library Association

Mail to: Nebraska Library Association, P.O. Box 21756, Lincoln, Nebraska 68542-1756

Registrations must be received by: February 3, 2010
4 hours of Continuing Education

Please remember to invite your Senator or their staff to lunch.

You can find your senator's phone # at: www.nebraskalegislature.gov/. Click on: Senators.



1500 R Street, P.O. Box 82554
Lincoln, NE 68501

**Genealogical Research at the
Nebraska State Historical Society**

LIBRARY/ARCHIVES CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Until **Spring 2010**

Check our website www.nebraskahistory.org for updated Information regarding reopening dates & hours

SUGGESTIONS FOR PREPARING FOR YOUR RESEARCH TRIP TO THE NSHS

A Guide to Genealogical Research at the Nebraska State Historical Society

http://www.nebraskahistory.org/lib-arch/services/reference/la_pubs/guide1.htm

Did you Know?

The **Library** catalog is available online at <http://www.nebraskahistory.org/databases/librarycatalog.htm>. Over 90% of the library collection is in this catalog. Try checking for your family name and county in Nebraska where your family lived in the Search area (**Anywhere**) or use **Enhanced Search** (top of page) for Boolean searching.

1. The Library has the largest collection of Nebraska state and local histories including Nebraska atlases, plat books, flat maps, city directories and phonebooks. Most of these titles are not available on the Web.
2. We have over 3000 genealogies/family histories collected during our 131-year history. We have a general collection of non-Nebraska genealogy guides and histories from other states. Again, many may not be available on the Web and you can use them right here in Lincoln.
3. The microfilm collection includes the largest collection of Nebraska newspapers in the state. Check out the online Nebraska newspaper listing at <http://www.nebraskahistory.org/lib-arch/research/library/newspapr.htm> or the online Library Catalog. Contact us for exact holdings of issues that are available.
4. Contact our staff about the Nebraska Statewide Cemetery Registry and cemetery tombstone transcriptions in the Library.

Government Records at the NSHS include various federal, state, and county records used in family research. The **Finding Aids for County Records Map** http://www.nebraskahistory.org/lib-arch/research/public/county_finding_aids/index.htm may be used to review inventories for county records (such as marriage, naturalization, school census, divorce, probate records and tax records). Government records include all available Nebraska census records (we also have territorial and state census records), land tract records (useful in locating homestead records) military records and their related indexes. If you cannot locate your Nebraska family in census records found on the Web, use the originals on microfilm in our L/A Reference Room!

The use of data in the **Archives** collection for genealogical research may be reviewed within the **Archival Collection Database** <http://www.nebraskahistory.org/databases/nhprc/index.shtml>. Follow the links on this homepage for the following areas: 1) Our **Manuscripts** include church records and family papers (published church histories are in the Library); 2) We are the **source** for Nebraska **Photographs**, **Moving images**, and **Sound Recordings** that may pertain to your family or their life in Nebraska.

For more details about the sources listed as well as additional indexes to various records in the Library/Archives, check the **Currently Available Searches** homepage <http://www.nebraskahistory.org/databases/index.html>. Also, check the Library/Archives Publications homepage http://www.nebraskahistory.org/lib-arch/services/reference/la_pubs/index.htm.

If you have questions, send an e-mail to nshslibarch@nebraska.gov or phone 402-471-4771. Our Library/Archives staff will respond to your requests! **REMINDER:** The NSHS has a limited number of original records available on our website. Plan now for a research trip to Lincoln to use our material. **SEE YOU IN SPRING 2010!**